

Capsule Summary

The John Derr House (F-3-163) is a four-building domestic complex constructed from the late eighteenth to the early twentieth centuries. The complex encompasses a main dwelling (ca. 1790 – 1850), kitchen (ca. 1790 –1800), meat house (ca. 1790-1800) and shed (ca. 1930) and is located southwest of the crossroads community of Ceresville within the City of Frederick in Frederick County, Maryland. The buildings occupy a 0.85-acre site, which historically served as one of two principal house lots associated with the Derr family farm.

The complex was evaluated for those qualities of significance and integrity identified in the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). The resource possesses local architectural significance under Criteria C and illustrates the themes of Rural Agrarian Intensification (1680-1815 A.D.) and Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870 A.D.) in the area of architecture as defined by the Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan (Maryland Trust 1986). As an intact entity, with a complement of domestic outbuildings, the complex provides a rare surviving example of domestic design in Frederick County during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

**MARYLAND INVENTORY OF
HISTORIC PROPERTIES**

Survey No. F-3-163

Magi No.

DOE ☐ yes ☐ no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic John Derr House

and/or common

2. Location

street & number 8401 Liberty Rd. ☐ not for publication

city, town Frederick ☐ vicinity of congressional district Sixth

state Maryland county Frederick

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> occupied	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> unoccupied	<input type="checkbox"/> commercial
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	<input type="checkbox"/> educational
<input type="checkbox"/> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment
<input type="checkbox"/> object	<input type="checkbox"/> in process	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> yes: restricted	<input type="checkbox"/> government
	<input type="checkbox"/> being considered	<input type="checkbox"/> yes: unrestricted	<input type="checkbox"/> industrial
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> not applicable	<input type="checkbox"/> no	<input type="checkbox"/> military
			<input type="checkbox"/> museum
			<input type="checkbox"/> park
			<input type="checkbox"/> private residence
			<input type="checkbox"/> religious
			<input type="checkbox"/> scientific
			<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name NALP Communities

street & number 806 West Diamond Ave., Suite 300 telephone no.: 301-670-4020

city, town Gaithersburg state and zip code Maryland, 20878

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Frederick County Courthouse liber 2015

street & number North Court Street folio 582

city, town Frederick, state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title N/A

date ☐ federal ☐ state ☐ county ☐ local

depository for survey records

city, town state

7. Description

Survey No. F-3-163

Condition

☐ excellent

☐ good

☒ fair

☐ deteriorated

☐ ruins

☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered

☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved

date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEETS

Summary Description

The John Derr House (F-3-163) is a domestic complex located southwest of the crossroads community of Ceresville within the City of Frederick in Frederick County, Maryland, which was constructed from the late eighteenth through the nineteenth centuries. The complex occupies a site on the south side of Route 26 (Liberty Road), west of the Monocacy River bridge. A gravel driveway provides access to the property from Route 26. The complex encompasses a 0.85 acre site that contains a principal dwelling and three outbuildings. The John Derr House is one of two domestic complexes historically associated with the Derr family farm. The principal dwelling which faces north, is situated on an east sloping ridge above the flood plain of the Monocacy River. The complex currently occupies a site adjoining the contemporary residential community of Dearbought.

The John Derr House is a two-story stone house that adopts a formal central hall plan. The main passage is flanked by parlors; an ell extends beyond the west parlor and central hall. The two-story, five-bay main block was constructed ca. 1790-1795. The two-story ell was appended to the rear of the main block along with a later shed roof rear addition between ca. 1820-1830. The attic of the ell was raised ca. 1840-1850 to create a third floor living space. A single bay garage was appended to the south elevation of the ell ca. 1900. The original two-story open porch found on the east elevation of the ell was enclosed ca. 1950 to create a modern kitchen and dining room. The dwelling is in fair condition.

Three domestic outbuildings are associated with the principal dwelling: a summer kitchen (ca. 1790-1800), a meat house (ca. 1790-1800) and a shed (ca. 1930). These domestic outbuildings are located to the rear of the principal dwelling. The outbuildings are in fair to poor condition.

Architectural Description

Principal Dwelling

The John Derr House is a two-story, coursed stone dwelling constructed in three major phases. The main block of the house (ca. 1790-1795) is five bays wide and one room deep. The ell (ca. 1820-1830) is

connected to the south wall of the main block and extends to the rear of the house. The ell is four bays wide and one room deep. A one bay, shed roof addition was appended to the ell shortly after its construction (ca. 1820-1830). The ell features a raised attic (ca. 1840-1850) constructed of brick.

The main block of the house rests on a full basement constructed of coursed stone; a crawl space is located beneath the ell. The building incorporates a gable roof over the main block with an intersecting gable over the ell. A common rafter roofing system was employed. All roof planes are sheathed with standing seam metal. Two, brick interior-end chimneys with corbelled caps rise from the main block; a central brick interior chimney rises from the ridge of the ell. An interior end chimney rises above the shed roof rear addition. A simple wooden box-cornice marks the building eaves, this feature has been encased with vinyl siding. The building features replacement metal gutters and downspouts.

The primary (north) elevation of the main block contains the principal entrance, which features a two-light wood-panel door enframed by a simple wood surround surmounted by a four-light transom. A one-story porch spans the central three bays of the main block. The porch features a shed roof sheathed with standing seam metal and is supported by four simple boxed columns. The porch floor and ceiling are sheathed with tongue-and-groove boards. The porch is supported by coursed stone piers.

The house exhibits symmetrically aligned four-over-four light, double-hung, wooden-sash windows on the first floor of the main block and six-over-six light, double-hung, wooden-sash windows on the second floor level. Windows throughout the remainder of the main block are six-over-six light and nine-over-six light, double-hung, wooden-sash windows. The window openings on the main block feature stone jack arches and simple wood sills. Six-light casement windows are located on the gable ends of the main block of the attic.

The ell is constructed of coursed stone and terminates in a side gable roof sheathed with standing seam metal. The ell features several additions, which include: a two-story stone shed roof addition (ca. 1820-1830), a raised attic constructed of brick (ca. 1840-1850), a wood-frame one car garage addition (ca. 1900), and an enclosed porch with kitchen addition (ca. 1950). The ell exhibits symmetrically aligned six-

over-six light, double-hung, wooden-sash windows with wooden sills and lintels. Six-light casement windows are located within the raised attic. These units are flanked by louvered wood shutters.

The four bay, side (west) elevation of the ell features a one-story shed roof porch spanning the northern two bays. The shed roof is sheathed with standing seam metal. The roof is supported by four, simple, boxed columns and features a decorative cornice with jigsawed dentils. The porch ceiling is sheathed with tongue-and-groove boards. The porch rests on a replacement poured concrete slab. The porch shelters a window flanked by a wooden raised paneled door surmounted by a three-light transom with wood surround and lintel.

The two-bay, rear (south) elevation of the ell features a two-story, stone, shed addition (ca. 1820-1830). The shed addition is appended to the southern wall of the ell. The south elevation of the addition features a central door flanked by a window. The entrance is sheltered by a one-story, shed porch supported by wooden posts. The shed roof is sheathed in standing seam metal.

A single brick chimney rises from the roof of the shed addition along the exterior wall of the ell. The chimney stack was raised when the attic level of the ell was expanded. A one bay, wood-frame garage (ca. 1900) extends from the east wall of the shed addition and the southern wall of the ell. The garage rests on a poured concrete foundation and is clad with wood siding. The garage includes a wooden, tri-fold vertical board door and terminates in a shed roof clad with standing seam metal.

The east elevation of the ell originally featured a two-story open porch, a characteristic feature of late eighteenth and nineteenth-century farmhouses in the Maryland Piedmont. The porch was integral to the ell. The original porch was enclosed and expanded during the 1950s. The enclosed wood-frame porch rests on a poured concrete foundation and is clad with wood siding. The porch features eight-over-eight, double hung wood sash windows and paired eight light casement windows.

The main block of the house adopts a formal central-hall plan flanked by parlors with the ell extending directly behind the central hall and east parlor. The main block retains many of its original interior finishes, including plaster, tongue and groove flooring, woodwork, and hardware. The central hall is

divided into two spaces separated by a modern wood partition wall with a fiber core door surmounted by a plexi-glass transom. The hall contains an open rear stairway with landing that ascends the east, south and west walls. The stairs feature a closed stringer with turned balustrade and newel posts. The balustrade is surmounted by an oval hand rail. The stairway ascends to the second floor and attic. The stairway is a late nineteenth century replacement. The flanking parlors contained central fireplaces with simple wood surrounds and wood mantels comprised of a plain entablatures with shelves. The fireplace surrounds and mantels were modified or replaced during the early nineteenth century. The fireplace surrounds and mantels were removed by vandals in 1999.

Each parlor also features four-over-four light, double hung wood sash windows. A small room is located to the rear of the east parlor. The room features a single six-over-nine light, double hung wood sash window on the south wall and a fireplace on the west wall.

The second floor of the main block was utilized as bed chambers. The floor plan of the second floor reflects that found on the first floor with the exception of the central hallway. All rooms are accessed from the stair landing. The northeast chamber features a central fireplace with wood mantel comprised of a simple entablature and shelf with a paneled wood overmantel with molding. The chimney piece is flanked by built-in wood cabinets with raised panel doors. The massive cabinets, fireplace surround, and overmantel are original late eighteenth-century features of the house. This is the only room that retains its original woodwork.

The southeast chamber has been converted to a bathroom and the original fireplace mantel has been removed. The northwest chamber features a central fireplace with simple wood moldings. The northwest chamber has been divided by a modern partition to create two separate rooms accessed by a common door. Second-floor interior finishes include plaster walls, simple moldings, and chairrails. Window and door surrounds also feature simple moldings.

The attic of the main block is accessible from the central stairway. The attic features wide, random-width floor boards. The brick flues of the interior end chimneys rise along the gable end walls. The roofing system consists of hewn rafters, which are lapped and pinned at the ridge line and joined by pinned collar

beams. The rafters are attached to the top plate with a bird's mouth joint. Roof sheathing is secured to regularly spaced horizontal nailers. A layer of wood shingles is attached to the nailers. The exterior face of the shingle roof now is sheathed with standing seam metal.

The symmetry and formality of the main block contrasts with the less formal spatial arrangements and simple finishes of the ell. The ell contains two rooms on each floor. The kitchen and dining room comprise the first floor. The dining room features a fireplace with wood mantel on the south wall. Exterior doors are found on the east and west walls of the dining room. An interior door on the north wall connects the main block. The original kitchen features a monumental brick cooking fireplace on the north wall. A west wall door provides exterior access. A doorway on the east wall leads to the modern kitchen addition. A boxed staircase with simple beaded vertical panels connects the dining room and original kitchen with the second floor.

The floor plan of the second floor reflects that found on the first floor of the ell. Second-floor interior finishes include plaster walls and simple molding. The chamber above the dining room included the boxed staircase in the northwest corner and continues to the attic. The fireplace mantel on the south wall of the room has been removed. A doorway on the east wall leads to a sitting room, part of the modern addition. The chamber above the kitchen features a central partition wall. An enclosed hall and boxed staircase are located on the rear (south) wall.

The raised attic of the ell features simple random width floor boards with plastered walls and ceilings. The attic features six-light casement windows. The west wall also features window openings which open into the attic of the modern addition. The raised attic is very simply finished, lacking moldings or woodwork.

The modern addition features a dining room and kitchen on the first floor level and sitting room on the second floor level. The modern addition, constructed ca. 1950, incorporates a portion of the original open side porch.

A two-story, shed roof, servants' quarters was appended to the south elevation of the ell. The first floor of the addition contains a simple north wall fireplace and open staircase on the south wall. The first floor

is accessed by a doorway from the kitchen of the ell. Architectural finishes incorporate simple moldings and surrounds.

Summer Kitchen

The summer kitchen (ca. 1790-1800) is located to the rear and east of the dwelling. The one-story, one-bay rectangular structure terminates in a side gable roof sheathed with standing seam metal. The structure is divided into three sections composed of beehive oven, drying room and kitchen.

The brick beehive oven is located on the west elevation of the structure. The beehive oven rests on a brick foundation with rubble infill. The bake oven is constructed of brick with a vaulted interior. The flue is located in the rear of the bake oven and rises along the dome of the roof to the mouth of the oven to the chimney flue. North of the beehive oven is a drying room, which contains shelves of sliding wooden trays. The entrance to the beehive oven and drying room are sheltered by a projecting gable roof extension.

The kitchen abuts the east wall of the beehive oven and rests on a coursed stone foundation. The walls are constructed of coursed stone. The kitchen is accessed from a doorway on the south elevation; a window is located on the north elevation. Both the door and window units have been removed. The interior of the kitchen features a dirt floor with a large cooking fireplace in the northeast corner. The fireplace is vented through an interior end chimney. The walls and ceiling of the room are plastered.

Meat House

The meat house (ca. 1790-1800) is located southwest of the rear of the principal dwelling. The meat house is a one-story, rectangular-plan structure, built of coursed stone covered with white washed stucco. The structure terminates in a pyramidal metal roof. The structure rests on a raised stone basement. The cold cellar, located in the basement level, is accessed by a central exterior stairway on the primary (north) elevation. The interior of the cold cellar is well insulated. The basement walls are parged

with a thick layer of clay. The ceiling of the cold cellar is constructed of rough but laid logs that form the floor of the main level and insulate the cellar. Large timbers set into the stone walls support these logs.

The meat house, located on the first floor level, is accessed by a flight of stairs above the basement door. The entrance was sheltered by a steeply pitched front gable roof supported by stone wing walls. The collapsed gable roof was sheathed with corrugated metal. The meat house is accessed from the landing of the stairway through a central doorway supported by a heavy timber frame. The door has been removed but the forged metal pintles remain in the door surround. A narrow ventilation slot is located in each wall. The ceiling features a series of wood poles and metal hooks from which meat was hung.

Shed

A wood-frame shed (ca. 1930) is located south of the rear of the meat house. The wood-frame shed is a one-story, post-in-ground, rectangular-plan structure clad with vertical board siding. The structure terminates in a side gable roof sheathed with corrugated metal. The building is in an advanced state of deterioration. A one-story addition, of unknown usage, appended to the west gable end of the structure has collapsed.

8. Significance

Survey No. F-3-163

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEETS

Summary

The John Derr House (F-3-163) is a domestic complex constructed from the late eighteenth through the early twentieth centuries, which is located southwest of the crossroads community of Ceresville within the City of Frederick in Frederick County, Maryland. The complex encompasses a 0.85 acre site that contains a principal dwelling (ca. 1790-1795) and three domestic outbuildings historically associated with the Derr family farm. The three domestic outbuildings are a summer kitchen (ca. 1790-1800), a meat house (ca. 1790-1800), and a shed (ca. 1930).

The complex was evaluated for those qualities of integrity and significance identified in the National Register of Historic Places criteria for evaluation (36 CFR 60.4 [a-d]). It possesses local architectural significance under Criteria C and illustrates the themes of Rural Agrarian Intensification (1680-1815 A.D.) and Agricultural-Industrial Transition (1815-1870 A.D.) as defined by the Maryland Comprehensive Historic Preservation Plan (Maryland Trust 1986). As an intact dwelling with a complement of domestic outbuildings, the complex is an example of domestic design in Frederick County during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

Land Tenure History

The John Derr House was constructed ca. 1790-1795. The house was the second major dwelling constructed on the property known as "Dearbought". John Derr, third son to Sebastian Derr, lived in the house until he inherited his father's adjoining property after Sebastian Derr's death in 1802. The earliest archival reference to the John Derr House is found in Sebastian Derr's will, which is dated 1796. In that document, the elder Derr described the property as comprising a "stone house, kitchen, stables, yard and garden." The house, its outbuildings, and 70 acres of land were bequeathed to Sebastian Derr's fourth son Thomas (1780-1845).

In a 1825 tax assessment, Thomas Derr holding were identified as a "stone house and log buildings" (Frederick County Tax Assessment [FCTA] 1825). Thomas subsequently purchased an additional five acres near his farm (FCLR, Liber J.S.33:505). By 1825, Thomas's 75 acres with improvements were assessed at \$675.00 (FCTA 1825). Thomas Derr also owned five slaves. Thomas Derr lived in the house until 1830, when he sold the property to his nephew, John Derr, Jr., and moved to Ohio.

In 1830, John Derr, Jr. (1798-1866), purchased the 75-acre parcel known as Dearbought which contained the stone house previously owned by his uncle Thomas (FCLR, Liber J.S.33:505). The same year, John Jr., married Elizabeth Lugenbeel (1808-1883), an heiress, and the couple moved into the stone house. In 1835, John Derr, Jr.'s, 75 acres were assessed at \$813.00 dollars, an increase of \$138.00 dollars in valuation in three years. By 1835, a frame barn was built on the property. John Derr Jr. also owned six slaves (FCTA 1835).

After John Derr, Sr.'s death in 1838, the entire Dearbought farm was united into one parcel. John Derr, Jr., lived in the stone house until 1843 or 1844, at which time the family moved to the "old house" (Derr Family Diary). The old house was the original Sebastian Derr house located southwest of the John Derr House. Eight of the family's twelve children were born in the John Derr House (Wampler 1987:437).

Elizabeth Derr (1779-1855), the widow of John Derr, Sr., and the stepmother to John Derr, Jr. moved from the original homestead into the John Derr House as her dower portion. She lived in the house until her death in 1855. In the 1850 census, Elizabeth Derr, age 67, was listed as a farmer. The household also included Susan Tripler, a 50-year old white female, and Mary James, a 30-year old freed black woman. The value of Elizabeth Derr's real estate was recorded as \$7,128. She was not listed as a slave owner. Her holdings included 90 improved acres and 5 unimproved acres. The cash value of her farm was recorded as \$7,125 and the associated agricultural implements were valued at \$600. Livestock included one horse, five cows, and twelve pigs for a combined value of \$100. Her farm yielded 500 bushels of wheat, 625 bushels of Indian corn, 20 bushels of potatoes, 50 bushels of orchard products, 6

tons of hay, and garden produce valued at \$25. The farm products included 520 lbs. of butter; the value of slaughtered animals was \$75.

After the death of his stepmother Elizabeth Derr, John Derr, Jr., and his family moved back into the stone house. Mary L. Derr reported the move in her diary in May 1856 (Derr Family Diary). After John Derr's death in 1866, his wife, Elizabeth Lugenbeel Derr, continued to live in the house as her dower right until her death in 1883. The unmarried Derr daughters occupied the stone house until their deaths. Derr family members have lived in the John Derr House until the property was sold out of family ownership in the 1990s.

Historic Context

Prior to 1730, the Frederick valley was a region sparsely inhabited by Indians, traders, and explorers attracted by plentiful resources and trade. Permanent European settlement was prompted by land speculation and settlers' desire for fertile farmlands. Much of the early settlement of the region can be attributed to investors who secured patents for tracts of land from the Propriety Government and resold subdivided tracts to the eager English and German pioneers. One such investor named Benjamin Tasker secured a 7,000-acre tract named "Tasker's Chance" along the western side of the Monocacy River (Tracey and Derr 1987: 257), part of which later became the town of Frederick. Daniel Dulany, another prominent investor, not only secured large grants, but also assembled many small parcels for later resale (Tracey and Derr 1987:31). The 307.25 - acre property known as "Dearbought", was purchased by Sebastian Derr, father of John Derr, in 1755. Sebastian Derr, a cooper from the Palatinate area of Germany, constructed a house on the property and raised his family. The home of his son, John Derr, was constructed on the same property ca. 1790-1795.

During the eighteenth century, Frederick County was settled by English and German settlers. As tobacco crops exhausted the land in the Tidewater region of Maryland, English planters moved westward in search of better farmland. Many of the German settlers were enroute south to Virginia along the Monocacy Road from Pennsylvania, but were lured to settle the Monocacy River Valley by Frederick County's rich

Piedmont soils (Tracey and Dern 1987:21). The English and German settlers of this region established two distinctly different economic and cultural traditions. English settlers from the Tidewater region transplanted the tobacco culture to the rolling meadows of Frederick County. Their plantations required slave labor and large plots of land located near water routes. German immigrants generally farmed smaller plots in the hills, emphasizing subsistence farming. Corn and wheat were the primary cash crops during this period (Tracey and Dern 1987:131). German farmers sold surplus corn and wheat to European and West Indian markets. By 1790, Frederick County was the largest wheat producer in the United States.

The early pioneers transported traditional building techniques. The Germans introduced horizontal log and stone construction, massed plans around a central chimney, and banked construction. English folk housing traditions introduced to the county by Tidewater settlers also were influential on the architectural development of the region. The English settlers transplanted hall-and-parlor and I-house plans with end chimneys. Early farmhouses in Frederick County exhibited a synthesis of folk traditions utilizing the abundant wood and limestone found throughout the region. Brick, which was common in the Tidewater region, also was widely used in the Piedmont region.

The design of the John Derr House reflects the evolution and development of a local pattern of architecture. The John Derr House, originally constructed (ca. 1790-1795), is two-stories, five bays wide and one room deep, constructed of coursed stone, and terminates in a gable roof. The house adopts a formal central-hall plan with interior end chimneys. The exterior and interior finishes of the house are simple and classically inspired. The design of the house reflects the dominant residential design of the region in plan and exterior design, which is expressed in the stone, an abundant material in Frederick County. The original house consisted of the rectangular main block; the ell was added during the early nineteenth century. The summer kitchen (ca. 1790-1800) and a meat house (ca. 1790- 1800) also were constructed during this period. Viewed as an extension to the principal dwelling, these outbuilding were sited in a functional manner to increase their efficiency and to distinguish the yard as a domestic work area.

Early in the nineteenth century, agriculture was transformed by advances in technology and transportation. Crop rotation, lime fertilization, and newly invented sowing and reaping machinery resulted in

abundant crop yields. The Baltimore Turnpike between Cumberland, Maryland, and the Port of Baltimore, was completed in 1821, and opened the Piedmont to a broad market (Brugger 1988:153). By 1831, both the Chesapeake and Ohio (C & O) Canal, and Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Company were serving the county (Miller 1886:136). The Piedmont region experienced a boom in wheat cultivation and production. During the first quarter of the nineteenth century, Maryland and Virginia produced over half of the wheat raised in the country (Gutheim 1986:178). The Derr family was active in the cultivation of grain crops and livestock throughout the nineteenth century.

During the early nineteenth century, local architecture displayed greater uniformity in design and construction as the "Piedmont farmhouse" type began to replace the vernacular buildings of the earlier settlers. Building designs adopted elements of the Federal and Neo-Classical styles with an emphasis on symmetry and an attention to classical architectural detail. Architectural practices were advanced by the proliferation of pattern books and builders' guides. The widely distributed books provided specific architectural plans, increased uniformity, and disseminated "high style" designs popularized in major cities. Current styles also may have been spread by craftsmen or residents travelling from such architectural centers as Philadelphia and Baltimore. Frederick spawned regional interpretations of these styles through the preferences of local carpenters and builders. The typical Piedmont farmhouse was a two-story, three to five-bay building, terminating in a gable roof flanked by exterior-end chimneys. Common architectural features include a two-story, rear kitchen ell defined by a two-story rear porch (Getty 1987:93). These houses, constructed in a variety of materials, often featured architectural embellishments and elements characteristic of high style designs. The result of these influences was a middle class farmhouse design easily acquired by the moderately successful Frederick County farmer. These farmhouses demonstrated the success and refinement of their owners.

The John Derr House was enlarged and modified during the first quarter of the nineteenth century through the addition of a two-story, coursed stone ell. The ell, constructed ca. 1820-1830, is connected to the south wall of the main block and extends to the rear of the house, forming an L-shaped ground plan. The kitchen and dining room were placed in the ell. A staircase in each room leads to rooms located on

the second floor level. The ell featured a two-story wood porch, a characteristic feature of farmhouse in the Maryland Piedmont. A one bay shed roof addition was appended to the ell shortly after construction (ca. 1820-1830) for servants quarters. The interior of the main block also was extensively renovated during this phase of construction. The renovations of the main block resulted in the alteration of the stairway in the entry hall to accommodate access to the ell. The roof of the ell was raised ca. 1840-1850 to create additional living space.

The modified ground plan of the John Derr House illustrates the distinctive regional pattern of the Piedmont farmhouse that developed in Frederick County during the early nineteenth century period. The dwelling incorporates elements typical of these houses, including a central hall plan with ell, stone construction, whitewashed parged walls, symmetrical ranked window fenestration, side-gabled massing, and refined architectural details. The plan conveys a well-proportioned and sophisticated delineation of public, private, and work spaces. Interior finishes such as the doors and window casings, and mantelpieces that embellish the house are common to other modest Frederick homes of the period.

Since its construction, the core of the John Derr House has remained primarily unaltered. The twentieth century additions of a one car wood-frame garage (ca. 1900) and the enclosure of the two-story open porch (ca. 1950) of the ell reflect the evolution of the dwelling as demand increased for utilitarian and private space. These additions do not compromise the overall integrity of the building.

Conclusion

The John Derr House (F-3-163) reflects the evolution and development of a local pattern of domestic architecture from during the late eighteenth to the early twentieth centuries in Frederick County. The principal dwelling survives intact and represents an interpretation of the Maryland Piedmont house type. The principal dwelling individually possesses those qualities of local significance as defined by the National Register of Historic Places Criterion C. The complex embodies the distinctive characteristics that define the regional farmhouse type. The principal dwelling conveys its historic association and retains its integrity of

location and setting. The regional pattern of architectural development is evident in the design, materials, and workmanship of the principal dwelling.

Within the immediate boundaries of the principal dwelling are three domestic outbuildings: a summer kitchen (ca. 1790-1800), a meat house (ca. 1790-1800), and a shed (ca. 1930). The summer kitchen and meat house are contributing outbuildings to the principal dwelling. These structures represent examples of functional vernacular architecture adopted for domestic requirements. These structures retain their integrity of design and location necessary to convey their association with the principal dwelling and historic context. The shed is a non-contributing element to the principal dwelling.

The complex collectively possesses those qualities of significance and integrity defined by the National Register of Historic Places under Criterion C. The principal dwelling and domestic outbuildings embody characteristics significant to the dissemination of national architectural styles and development of regional design in the Frederick area. As an intact entity, with a complement of domestic outbuildings, the complex is an example of domestic architectural design in Frederick County during the late eighteenth and early nineteenth centuries.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. F-3-163

SEE ATTACHED CONTINUATION SHEET

10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property .85253 Ac.Quadrangle name Walkersville, MDQuadrangle scale 1:24000

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Northing			

B	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
	Zone	Easting		Northing			

C	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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D	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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E	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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F	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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G	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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H	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>
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Verbal boundary description and justification

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	<u>N/A</u>	code	county	code
-------	------------	------	--------	------

state		code	county	code
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11. Form Prepared By

name/title W. Patrick Giglioorganization R. Christopher Goodwin & Associates, Inc. date 3/23/98street & number 241 East Fourth St., Suite 100 telephone 301-694-0428city or town Frederick state Maryland, 21701

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST
DHCF/DHCD
100 COMMUNITY PLACE
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2020
514-7600

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Frederick County Tax Assessments, Tax Assessment Office, Frederick County, Frederick.

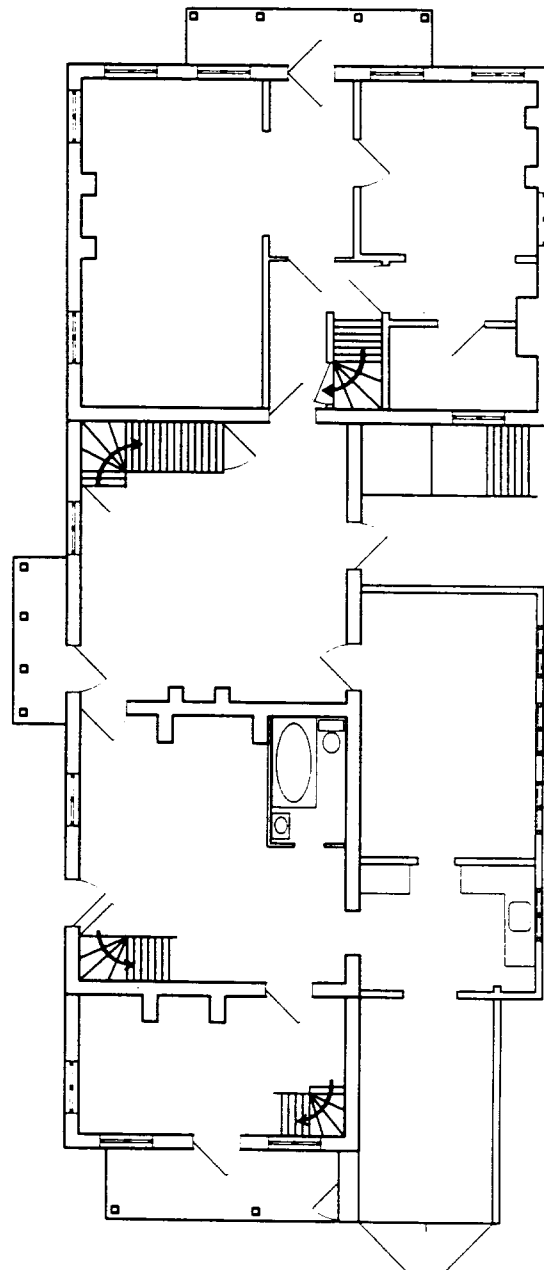
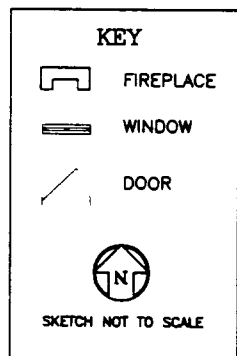
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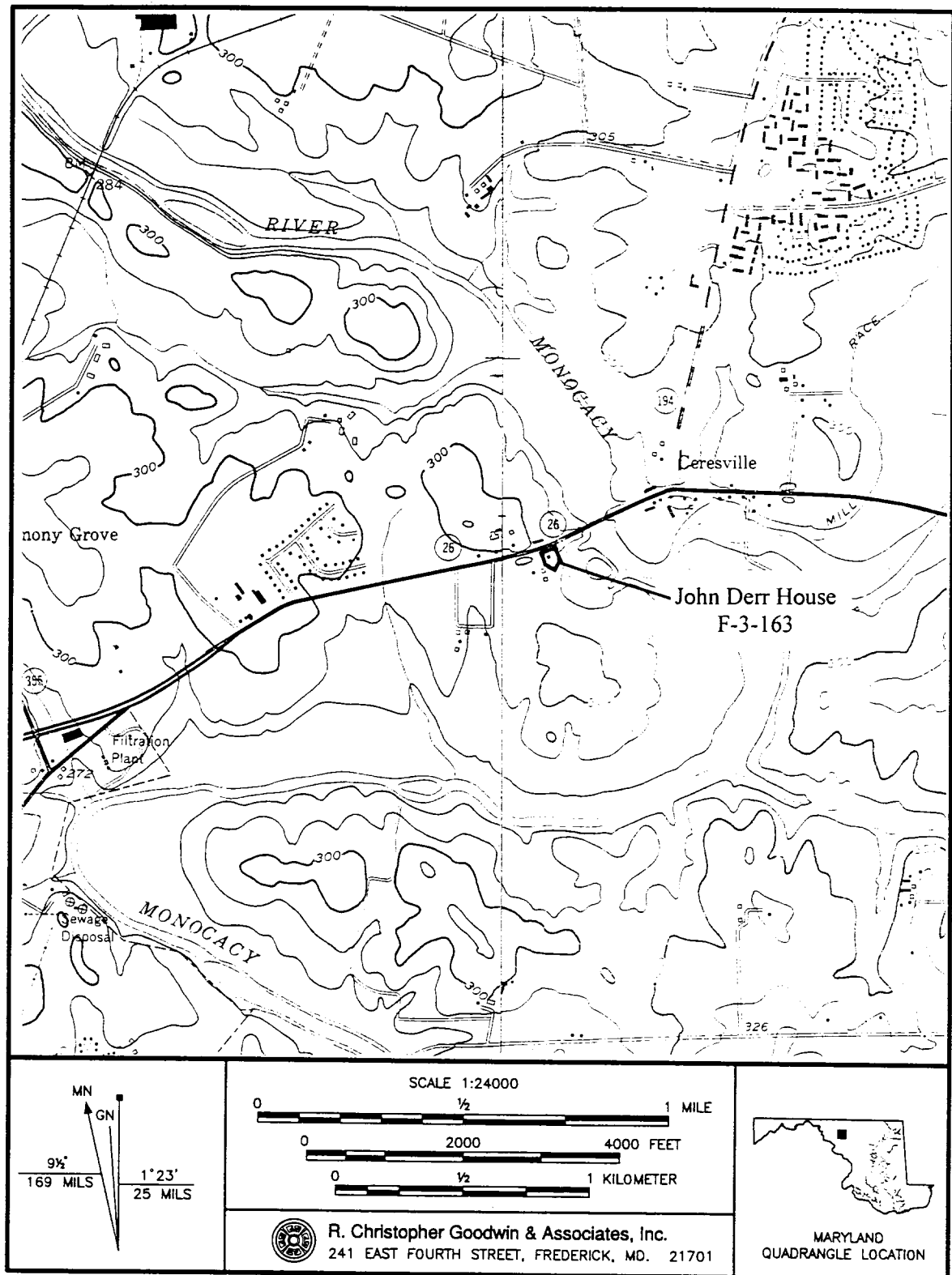
Verbal boundary description and justification

The John Derr House (F-3-163) is located southwest of the crossroads community of Cereseville within the City of Frederick. The house occupies a site located on the south side of Route 26 (Liberty Road) west of the Monocacy River bridge. The property of the John Derr House is 0.85253 acres encompassing the principal dwelling and outbuildings. The boundaries of the property roughly form a pentagon, beginning at a point on the southerly right of way line of Maryland Route 26 and adjoining the Dearbought subdivision then proceeding easterly along the highway right of way 210' to a point, thence southeast 130' to a point, thence southwest 230', thence northwest 110' and thence north 147' to the beginning point on the southerly right of way line of Maryland Route 26. A more detailed description is provided in the easement for the John Derr House, Dearbought Subdivision, on file at the Maryland Historical Trust.

John Derr House

First Floor Plan





Portion of 1953 Photorevised 1986 U.S.G.S. Walkersville, MD quadrangle, depicting the location of the John Derr House (F-3-163).

INDEX TO PHOTOGRAPHS

The information for items a-f is identical for each print.

1. a. inventory #: F-3-163
 b. historic name: John Derr House
 c. location: City of Frederick, Frederick County
 d. photographer: B. Cleven
 e. date of photograph: May 1999
 f. location of negative: MD SHPO
 g. description: Principal Dwelling, view southwest
2. g. Principal Dwelling, view south
3. g. Principal Dwelling, view east
4. g. Principal Dwelling, view northeast
5. g. Principal Dwelling, view northwest
6. g. Principal Dwelling, first floor, main block, hallway, view north
7. g. Principal Dwelling, first floor, main block, western parlor, view northwest
8. g. Principal Dwelling, first floor, main block, eastern parlor, view southeast
9. g. Principal Dwelling, first floor, main block, hall stair, view south
10. g. Principal Dwelling, first floor, ell, kitchen hearth, view northwest
11. g. Principal Dwelling, second floor, main block, eastern bed chamber, view east
12. g. Principal Dwelling, attic, main block, view east
13. g. Summer Kitchen, view northeast
14. g. Meat House, view southwest
15. g. Meat House and Shed, view east
16. g. Shed, view southwest



F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Clevon

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, view Southwest

1 of 16

650 PICTURES OF THE HOUSE



F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, view south

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100 F-3-163 000000 12AU 039



F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, view east

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Clevon

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, view northeast

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B Clevon

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, view northwest

5 of 16



F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Clevon

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, first floor, main block, hallway, view north

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, first floor, main block, western parlor, view northwest

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B Clevon

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, first floor, main block, eastern parlor, view southeast

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, first floor, main block, hall stair, view south

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, first floor, rear ell, Kitchen hearth, view northwest

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, second floor, main block, eastern bed chamber, view.

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Clevon

5/99

SHPO

Principal Dwelling, attic, main block, view west

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Summer Kitchen, view northeast

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F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Clevon

5/99

SHPO

Meathouse, view southwest

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2025 RELEASE UNDER E.O. 14176



F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B. Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Meat House and Shed, view east

15 of 16

650 DERR HOUSE SHED VIEW EAST



F-3-163

John Derr House

Frederick

B Cleven

5/99

SHPO

Shed, view southwest

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